

ENERGY STAR® Fast Facts



The Symbol for Energy Efficiency

Fast Facts about ENERGY STAR Qualified Home Electronics

- If everyone were to purchase only those TVs and VCRs with the ENERGY STAR label, our nation would save over \$500 million in energy bills and cut the air pollution equivalent of one million cars each year.
- If everyone were to purchase only those home audio and DVD products with the ENERGY STAR label, our nation would save about \$500 million in energy bills and cut the air pollution equivalent of more than 800,000 cars each year.
- While some small amount of energy is necessary to provide clock, remote control, and instant-on features for home electronics when switched off, most of it serves no useful purpose and is wasted. Some energy experts refer to this waste as “leaking electricity,” although no electricity is actually leaking from the product.
- In the United States alone, the amount of energy consumed by home electronics when not in use equals the annual output of six power plants.
- An ENERGY STAR qualified TV consumes up to 75 percent less energy than conventional models when switched off. An ENERGY STAR qualified VCR consumes up to 70 percent less energy than a conventional model when switched off.
- In the average home, 90 percent of all electricity used to power audio products is consumed after the products are turned off. Only 10 percent of the electricity is used for these products when turned on. By switching to ENERGY STAR qualified home audio and DVD products, as much as 75 percent of this waste can be eliminated.
- Home electronics with the ENERGY STAR label typically have the same or better performance, features, reliability, and price as conventional models, but save money and the environment by using less energy.
- When turned off, CD players in the United States still consume enough energy in one year to power the Las Vegas strip for six months.
- Each year, Americans spend more money to power home audio and DVD products when turned off than when actually in use.
- Americans spend over \$1 billion each year to power their TVs and VCRs when they are switched off.
- The energy generated to power American TVs and VCRs when they are switched off causes the air pollution equivalent of two million cars.
- The energy used to power small household appliances and consumer electronics is one of the largest and fastest growing household energy costs in the United States, currently responsible for about 30 percent of residential electricity use. By 2015, this category is projected to be responsible for almost 50 percent of household electricity use.
- Each year, home audio and DVD products alone consume seven billion kWh of electricity when turned off. That’s enough to satisfy the electricity needs of New York City and Westchester County for more than two months.